THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

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THE TOAD EATER:—A CHARACTER.

By the late MRS. ROBINSON.

OF all the *non-entities* which diſgrace the temple of the ſupreme faſhion, I have diſcovered none ſo contemptible, as that appendage to exalted rank, vulgarly denominated a toad-eater. I have found this ſpecies of reptile in almoſt every manſion of profligacy and profuſion. I have ſeen their ſmiles at the tables of exalted dupes: I have heard them whiſper the arrangement of an intrigue to a falſe wife, while her huſband has been flattered with the title of friend or patron! I have obſerved this ſeemingly domeſtic aſſociate feaſting at the luxurious table of a man of rank, while he ſettled an aſſignation for the favourite of his pleaſures, with a no leſs diſtinguiſhed enamorato. At other periods I have known him carrying on an illicit intercourſe with the friend's wife, winning his money at a gaming-table, ridiculing his prodigality, condemning his falſe pride, and proclaiming his ignorance, even in the preſence of his moſt intimate aſſociates; at the ſame time, that he ſmiled in his face, and, with little leſs than the idolatry of a bigot, extolled him for every virtue that can adorn humanity.

It has often aſtoniſhed me to behold men of real underſtanding, the dupes of theſe poiſonous animalcule. And yet they have acceſs to the tables of the wealthy and the profuſe, while the ſons of genius are left, in obſcurity, to periſh. I have even ſeen women of talent, and acknowledged judgement, countenance and eſteem ſuch beings, in preference to the more enlightened and candid of that ſex, which nature deſtined to adore them.

A toad-eater is perhaps one of the moſt indolent, and at the ſame time the moſt indefatigable of creatures. He has no occupa-

tion, and is nevertheleſs perpetually employed. He has ſeldom any honourable independence, and yet he exiſts in the very vortex of every luxury. He has no ſettled home, but every houſe of *ton* is open to receive him. He is not learned, and yet he gives his opinions with freedom, even on the moſt abſtruſe writings; he is not poliſhed, but he is the cenſor of good breeding: he is not noble, though he vaunts his principles of ariſtocracy: and, with a pliability that is aſtoniſhing, ſuits his looks, manners, voice, and opinions, to thoſe of the patron on whom he depends for the day's enjoyment.

Let no ſuch man be truſted; they are the ſubtile miſchiefs which undermine the foundation of domeſtic happineſs. They are the ſmooth honeyed poiſons, which contaminate the cup of human felicity. They are the defamers of the dupes they feed on; and are only ſerviceable to the depraved and ſenſual. In fact, they are the jackall to the lion; the clown to his motley aſſociate; the monkey, who ſkips and plays about his lofty dromedary; the trumpeter to the raree-ſhow of faſhion; the mirror in which folly ſees her own likeneſs; the lacquey, who waits on the vices of his maſter; the flatterer of his indiſcretions, the ſycophant of his weakneſs; the pliant varniſher of that clay which nature ſtamped with dullneſs and inſipidity; the ſeducer of his friend's wife; the pander of his friend's miſtreſs, the peſt of ſociety, and the diſgrace of human nature.

INSTANCES *of* PORTUGUEZE JUSTICE.

[From Hinckley's Tranſlation of Link's Travels in Portugal, &c.]

I Cannot but here relate an incident which happened to us, becauſe it gives an idea of the adminiſtration of juſtice in Portugal. At Thomar the Count of Hoffmanſegg wiſhed to embark for Liſbon. In this plan I found no attractions, and propoſed to accompany a young Spaniard, the count's ſecretary, and the ſervants, by land. But here we met with a difficulty; for we had only one paſſport, in which the count and myſelf were mentioned, together with his ſuite*. We therefore went to the corregedor's, but he being abſent had intruſted his buſineſs to another perſon, who made no objection, ſaying the count might proceed with the portaria, to which he added a declaration why the

* It was not a mere paſſport, but a portaria, or order from the queen, ſigned by a ſecretary of ſtate, to all magiſtrates and officers, to aid us in all things relative to our affairs and reſearches into natural hiſtory, which was particularly ſpecified. Such a portaria is in that country much more comprehenſive than a mere paſſport; and the judges were bound, in caſe of need, to provide for our lodging and conveyance.

the count travelled alone, and without attendants, giving us at the ſame time a paſſport, in which he ſtated that he had inſpected the portaria, of which he briefly added the contents.

With this paſſport we went to Santarem, where two officers of juſtice *(eſcrivaes*—notaries) immediately appeared, a claſs of men who throughout the country juſtly bear a very bad character, and demanded our paſſports. They refuſed the declaration of the corregedor of Thomar, as every foreigner ought to have a paſs from the intendant or a ſecretary of ſtate. Both theſe men went to and fro, ſpoke ſecretly together, then came back to us; and, in ſhort, I obſerved they wanted ſome money, which however I feared to give them, leſt I ſhould thereby render myſelf ſuſpected.

At length they examined our pockets, and unfortunately found in mine a pointed knife, which being prohibited in Portugal, they threatened me with impriſonment. All this, however, was not ſerious; they ſuffered us to eat our ſupper in peace, and did not come till ten o'clock to fetch us to the juiz de fora. This gentleman, having a large company with him, ſuffered us to wait a long time in his antechamber, whither he at length came, merely heard the eſcrivaes, who ſaid, "Here are foreigners who have no regular paſſports," and laconically replied, "To priſon." I requeſted him to read over our papers, but he replied, "My orders are given—to priſon." Thither the young Spaniard and myſelf were taken, amid the ſport of the eſcrivaes, but no one troubled himſelf about our ſervants and baggage. At firſt we were put into a decent room; but the eſcrivaes ſpoke a few words ſoftly to the gaoler, who then obliged us to go down ſome ſteps into another chamber. This was a ſhocking place; a horrid ſtench attacked us, for the privy was ſituate there: and I ſoon perceived, with horror, that we were in the ſame room with criminals.

Even now, when I reflect on this wretched moment, I can ſcarcely reſtrain my feelings; and it particularly vexed me to be told, that it was contrary to good manners to wear my hat. At length I ſent to the gaoler to know if we could have another room by paying for it. This was all that was wanted; and we were now ſhown into a good room, our ſervants were permitted to attend us, and the gaoler allowed us to go into his apartment. I was alſo permitted to ſend meſſengers to Thomar and Liſbon.

At firſt people ſeemed diſpoſed to let us remain in priſon. Among the priſoners were a number of Spaniſh merchants, who had remained there ſeveral weeks from the ſame cauſe as ourſelves, and had only been once examined ſince their firſt impriſonment. A poor Italian, who was ill, chiefly attracted my pity. He had been brought here becauſe his paſſport did not agree with the laſt orders: his money was ſpent, the poor man was forgotten, and I ſaw no means of liberation. A ſon of a citizen

of Santarem ſaid to us, with a dejected countenance, "You are fortunate, for you know the cauſe of your impriſonment, which I do not of mine; and I ſhall, perhaps, be ſent for a ſoldier."

Meanwhile we ſoon procured our liberty. I aſked the young Spaniard to draw up a petition in Spaniſh, as I thought he would expreſs himſelf better in that language: I then tranſlated it into Portugueze, and aſked a notary, who was one of the priſoners, to inſtruct me in the proper form. With this we applied to the juiz de fora, who referred us to the corregedor, and the latter demanded information of the two eſcrivaes who had taken us priſoners. The gaoler now came to us, ſaying that the two eſcrivaes were very poor, that an unfavourable report from them would at leaſt lengthen the affair, and, making the worſt of the pointed knife*, adviſed me to give them money. We therefore purchaſed a favourable report with a couple of cruſades, upon which the corregedor liberated us; ſo that we remained only about eighteen hours in priſon.

We had already met with an incident, which may alſo afford ſome inſight into the adminiſtration of juſtice in this country. We arrived one morning at Cezimbra, where a notary appeared as uſual, read the portaria, and took leave of us very politely. Toward evening the count and myſelf, on our return from a walk to Calheriz, had ſeparated a little way from the town, the better to examine the country, as we could not here loſe our way; but the count had ſcarcely entered the town, when ſome officers of juſtice met him, and demanded his paſſport. He aſſured them he had it at the inn, whither they might conduct him and ſee it; but all he could ſay availed nothing, and he was taken to priſon; where indeed he was placed in a decent apartment, but expoſed to the curioſity of a multitude of ſpectators.

Here he was examined even to his ſhirt, and two piſtols being found in his girdle, he was declared a very ſuſpicious perſon, though the portaria permitted him to carry all kinds of arms; nor till he was thrown into priſon was a meſſage diſpatched to me to ſend the portaria. I did ſo, not doubting the count would immediately return; but with the utmoſt aſtoniſhment I heard the anſwer of the alcade, that the juiz de fora being abſent he could not decide upon this affair. Fortunately we had ſpoken with the juiz de fora, who was a good kind of man, at Calheriz, whither a ſervant was ſent in the night with the portaria. Meanwhile I was informed, that if the ſervant did not return next morning, I muſt alſo go to the priſon. He returned at three o'clock,

* I had bought it publicly at St. Ubes; for, though very ſtrictly prohibited, ſuch knives are publicly ſold. L.

In Spain and Italy our Engliſh pointed knives are ſold; but the purchaſer uſually breaks off about a ſixteenth of an inch at the extremity, in order to be within the limits of the law. T.

o'clock, and brought poſitive orders immediately to liberate the count; but the officers of juſtice would not ſuffer him to go without paying them their fees, which the count gave them, declaring he deſpiſed theſe men too much to trouble himſelf any farther about them. The alcade would alſo have kept the piſtols, till the count declared that he would immediately ſend a meſſenger to Liſbon with an account of the whole tranſaction.

Theſe examples ſhow how much precaution is neceſſary to protect a traveller from Portugueze juſtice; and that the alcades and eſcrivaes are a claſs of men among whom are many rogues. They are indeed generally complained of, and the juizes and corregedores are every where accuſed of great partiality to perſons of rank. But I muſt add, for the honour of the nation, that in both the above inſtances every one took our part, compaſſionated us, endeavoured to ſhow us attentions, and loaded the officers of juſtice with abuſe.

Deſcription of the Salt Mines of Wielitſka, in Poland.

By J. Peschier, M. D.

THE village of Wielitſka lies at the diſtance of two leagues to the ſouth-weſt of Cracow: it is ſituate on the gentle declivity of a cultivated mountain, and is very populous. Theſe valuable mines were diſcovered in the year 1251, and ſince that time they have been conſtantly worked; but it is only ſince the late changes effected in the political ſtate of Poland, that the working of them has been carried on with the preſent degree of ſpirit.

The deſcent into theſe mines is through ſquare pits, twenty fathoms in depth, and from twelve to fourteen in diameter, cut through the pure ſalt, if we except a few fathoms of earth by which they are covered. There are ſix of them, of different dimenſions, diſtant about a hundred feet from each other, and which all communicate with each other internally.

This deſcent, which is attended with ſome novelty, in ſome excites fear rather than curioſity. Thoſe who viſit it are ſeated in a ſort of chair made of ropes, and ſtrongly attached to a thick rope, which paſſes round a large wheel moved by a horſe, and which is thus let down into the pit. From two to ten perſons may be ſeated around this rope, provided they hold very faſt with their hands; but if they are ſubject to giddineſs, they muſt then be ſecured by a girdle which paſſes round the body. It is cuſtomary before they deſcend to offer up a ſhort prayer, which adds conſiderably to the awfulneſs of the preparation for the deſcent; but the efforts which each afterward makes to conceal his terror on viewing the vaſt and obſcure pit, the extremities of which

which they dare not conſider, generally overcome every enſation of timidity, and the ſix minutes employed in reaching the bottom ſoon glide away amid mirth and ſecurity.

When you arrive at the depth of ten fathoms you find yourſelf in freſh and agreeable air, and afterward experience only very ſlight modifications of the temperature till you reach the bottom, the depth of which is twenty fathoms.

On reaching the bottom of the pit, a great number of the workmen flock round you, offering you their ſervices; and you then find yourſelf in the centre of ſix radii, each of which forms an extenſive gallery. It is at this centre that ſalt dug from the mine is collected, and conveyed to the top of the pit by means of the ſame rope that brings down thoſe who viſit it from curioſity.

The firſt remarkable object that occurs is a magnificent altar, of moderate dimenſions, cut out of the pureſt ſalt, and decorated with four columns ten feet in height, one and a half in diameter, and perfectly tranſparent: it is ornamented all around with ſculpture repreſenting the attributes of the vine and agriculture: on the right is Jeſus on the croſs, of the natural ſize, and executed with great elegance; on the left is a ſaint in the attitude of offering up his devotions, the work of the ſame chiſel: three ſteps conduct to the altar, which is richly ornamented with elegant veſſels of ſalt; and the whole receives a very remarkable degree of ſplendour from about thirty ſmall flambeaux lighted around it.

In this place the ſalt is remarkably pure, and is diſtinguiſhed by the name of ſcibika; the ſecond kind, which is found at the diſtance of a few fathoms, is mixed with argil, and is called grun; the third, called ſpiza, is mixed with calcareous earth, argil, and water: the argil is almoſt always of a ſchioſtous form and of a dark gray colour; in ſome morſels it ſerves as a baſe to the calcareous earth, diſpoſed with great elegance in cottony balls, exceedingly white and of different ſizes.

The ſtrata of ſalt are always parallel to the ſurface of the mountain; but no regularity has hitherto been obſerved in the reſpective ſituations of the different ſtrata: they are often ſeparated from each other by ſtrata of argil, and in ſome places interſected by veins of calcareous ſpar: where the air is dampeſt the ſoil falls into a ſtate of efflorescence, and is remarkably white; every where elſe the colour varies from blackiſh blue to a dirty white. Where the water is collected and remains, the ſalt diſſolves, and then ſhoots into very regular cubic cryſtals: cryſtals of the like kind are found ſometimes buried in the mountain itſelf; the cryſtallization found there is quite formed in the manner of four ſteps of equal dimenſions, which, placed in a ſquare, and converging toward a centre, form a pyramid of great elegance and regularity.

We proceeded from the altar through a large alley fifteen feet in heighth and twelve in breadth, entirely cut out in the ſalt, which conducted us to an immenſe magazine filled with caſks. This cavity, of an enormous ſize, conſtructed at the depth of 120 feet below the ſurface of the earth, was ſupported only by four pillars of ſalt, and theſe even were conſidered as ſuperfluous. The ſides of this hall conſiſt of ſalt more or leſs pure, which reflected the rays of light proceeding from our lamps in a thouſand different points. We then directed our courſe to a large ſtair of a hundred ſteps, each nearly fifteen feet in length and one in breadth, covered with planks to preſerve the angles of them: by this ſtair we deſcended twenty-five fathoms without experiencing any very ſenſible change in the temperature; the dampneſs of the air even is ſo weak, that planks, which have been in uſe for upward of a hundred years, and at the depth of 270 feet below the ſurface of the earth, appear ſtill as freſh as if new. The workmen aſſured me that they experienced almoſt the ſame degree of heat during the whole year: the air here is ſo ſurcharged with ſalt that the ſaline particles are depoſited on the hair, eyebrows, and eyelaſhes of the workmen.

We ſoon arrived at a hall of as great extent as the former, in which the miners were employed in digging out the ſalt with great activity. By the chiſel and gunpowder they ſometimes cut out blocks three feet in breadth, and ſufficiently thick to form three maſſes, each weighing 560 pounds. When the edges are rounded off, they give them the form of an elliptical caſk.

The workmen employed in theſe mines are in number 800; they work in the interior of the mine from five o'clock in the morning to one in ſummer, and from ſeven to three in winter. They are naked to the middle, (which announces a very mild temperature) and are not ſubject to any particular malady: their paleneſs ariſes from the want of light and bad nouriſhment. They have nothing to dread but the terrible exploſions which often burſt forth from places formerly worked and now cloſed up. At the moment when they enter with their lamp, the air ſeems as if traverſed by flaſhes of lightning in every direction: the combuſtion is ſudden, extends to the neighbouring galleries, extinguiſhes the lamps, and ſeverely ſcorches the workmen, if they do not throw themſelves flat on their faces.

We now deſcended a ſecond magnificent ſtaircaſe to the depth of 30 fathoms more, and of 450 feet below the ſurface of the mountain, where we found horſes yoked to a wheel like the former, and which ſerves to move the rope that brings up the ſalt dug out in the lower galleries. Theſe animals paſs the greater part of their lives in theſe ſubterranean regions, and yet enjoy good health. At ſome diſtance is a large ſtable, with ſix pair of horſes, which relieve each other. Being here ſtruck with a ſtrong

ſmell

ſmell of ſulphur, I found that it aroſe from the diſengagement of ſulphurized and phoſphorated hydrogen gas, produced by the fermentatian of the horſes' dung, and, in my opinion, muſt greatly contribute toward thoſe aërial exploſions of which I have ſpoken.

We next proceeeded to a neighbouring gallery, where, after two hours reſpectful admiration, we were filled with a ſentiment of aſtoniſhment and ſurpriſe which it is impoſhble for me to deſcribe. Through the enormous maſs of ſalt, which preſents to the eye no interruption in its ſaline texture, and at the depth of 450 feet, flows a ſtream of pure freſh and tranſparent water, which is received in large wooden veſſels, where the workmen and horſes of theſe ſubterranean regions quench their thirſt. As it was impoſſible that this ſpring could filter through the ſalt, nature, which buries her maſter-pieces in the bowels of the deepeſt mountains, has placed in this monſtrous maſs of ſalt a ſtratum of clay ſufficiently thick to allow this ſtream of water, deſtined to refreſh the workmen, to paſs through it in ſuch a manner as to be protected from the action of the ſalt, of which a very ſmall quantity would injure its ſalubrity. To viſit a place where nature ſeems to have ſcattered her gifts with profuſion, and to have concentrated her moſt valuable ſecrets, muſt be highly intereſting.

We now ſet out to quit the mines, and in our way found ſeveral other altars recently cut out from the ſalt, and in a very neat manner, which diſplayed conſiderable taſte. Having ſoon reached the bottom of one of the pits, we placed ourſelves, as before, on ſeats made of rope, and arrived in ſafety at the village of Wielitſka. By an eſtimation, made nearly fifty years ago, of the ſize of theſe mines, it appears that they extend from eaſt to weſt 6000 German feet, from north to ſouth 2000, and to the depth of more than 800.

The working of theſe mines, which give bread to more than 400 families, enriches the village, and ſupplies the neighbouring countries with ſalt, produces more than 168,000 quintals per annum, and brings to the emperor a net profit of five millions of florins.

Such are the moſt intereſting circumſtances which I obſerved at the famous mines of Wielitſka, of which ſo many fabulous deſcriptions have been given, and againſt which people ought to be on their guard; it is even aſtoniſhing that where the mind can ſcarcely ſeize the grandeur of what nature preſents, the imagination ſhould ſtill be ſo lively as to ſee there "people who never behold the light of the ſun, who inhabit ſubterranean villages, who govern themſelves according to their own laws." &c.

During my ſtay at Cracow, I formed a deſign of viſiting alſo the ſalt mines or mountains of ſalt at Bochnia, five leagues ſouth-

eaſt from Cracow, to which I repaired for that purpoſe; but I was not allowed to deſcend into them, for want of the neceſſary written orders. They are conſtructed like thoſe of Wielitſka; but the pits are deeper, and they contain more of that kind of ſalt called ſchibika. The ſalt, however, is neither ſo pure nor ſo various in its nature, nor are there to be ſeen in the latter any of thoſe maſter-pieces of art above deſcribed. Large fragments of black wood and alabaſter are often found mixed with the ſalt.

ACCOUNT *of the late* CORONATION *at* MOSCOW

Moſcow, Sept. 20, *O. S.—Oct.* 2, *N. S.*

ON Sunday laſt was performed the ceremony of the coronation, &c. of the Emperor Alexander I. which drew to this city an addition of 40,000 Ruſſian families, and an immenſe number of ſpectators from every other country in Europe. Early in the morning a diſcharge of twenty-one pieces of cannon gave a ſignal to the troops to occupy their reſpective poſts, and to the perſons who were to figure in the proceſſion, to repair to the places aſſigned to them. About nine o'clock the march began in the following order, from the palace in the kremlin (the citadel) to the cathedral of the aſſumption:—

1. An officer of the knight's body-guard, at the head of a detachment of that corps, drew up along the way as far as the door of the church.

2. Twenty-ſix ordinary and as many chamber pages advanced into the church.

3. Two maſters of ceremonies proceeded to point out to each perſon the place and part he ſhould take in the proceſſion; which having done, they took their ſtand round the imperialia, which were carried upon cuſhions into the church by perſons of high diſtinction. The imperialia conſiſted of—

The chain of the order of St. Andrew
The banner of the empire
The ſeal of the empire
The ſword of ſtate
The mantle of her imperial majeſty
The mantle of his imperial majeſty
The ſceptre
The ſtaff of command
The ſmall imperial crown
The large imperial crown.

The imperalia were eſcorted by two officers of the knights body-guard and twenty-four knights armed with carbines.

4. The deputies of the Ruſſian merchants from all the governments of Ruſſia.

5. The deputies of the foreign merchants.—Mr. Hawes repreſented the Engliſh.

6. The magiſtrates of Moſcow.

7. The members of the univerſity.

8. The ſuperintendants of the different departments of the government of Moſcow.

9. The dignities of the nobility of all the governments of the empire.

10. The ſenates

11. The members of his imperial majeſty's council.

12. Two upper maſters of ceremonies with their ſtaffs.

13. The grand maſter of ceremonies with his ſtaff.

14. Two heralds in their appropriate coſtume.

15. A detachment of the knights body-guard.

16. Two marſhals of the court with their ſtaffs.

17. An upper marſhal of the court with his ſtaff.

18. The grand marſhal.

19. His imperial majeſty, attended by two adjutant-generals and the colonel of the knights body-guard—drawn ſwords in their hands.

20. Her imperial majeſty, accompanied in the like manner. The canopy under which their majeſties were placed was ſupported by ſixteen majors and ſixteen lieutenant-generals.

21. The biſhop of the robes, maids of honour, &c.

22. A detachment of the knights body-guard.

23. A body of noblemen of the moſt illuſtrious families of the empire, one repreſenting each family.

24. The manufacturers of Moſcow—the chief merchants of ditto.

25. A detachment of the knights body-guard, which cloſed the proceſſion.

A ringing of all the bells in the different churches announced the beginning of, and continued during, the proceſſion.

His imperial majeſty was received at the door of the church by the metropolitan of Moſcow, bearing in his hand a croſs, and by the archdeacon, carrying the holy water.

As ſoon as their imperial majeſties entered the church, they placed themſelves before the altar, proſtrated themſelves before and kiſſed the ſacred images that were placed around.

They next aſcended the throne, which was raiſed in the middle of the church, under a canopy, and ſeated themſelves upon it.

The archbiſhops, biſhops, and other dignitaries of the church, then placed themſelves in two lines along the ſteps of the throne towards the altar. The choir then ſung a verſe of the pſalm.—*Te Domine, cantamus, &c.*

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The noblemen of diſtinction who carried the imperialia then mounted the ſteps of the throne, and placed the imperialia upon a table prepared for that purpoſe. Having arranged them in due order, they took their places upon the ſteps of the throne, each according to his rank and office.

Coronation.

The ceremony of the coronation was then begun and performed in the following manner:

The archbiſhop of Moſcow (the celebrated Plata), who officiated on the occaſion, after having gone through the previous part of divine ſervice, proceeded to read, and read the goſpel. His imperial majeſty ordered the imperial mantle to be taken from the table on which it had been placed, and to be put upon his ſhoulders. This was done by the archbiſhop, who accompanied the act with the uſual prayer. The prayer being finiſhed, his majeſty called for the imperial crown. This one of the bearers of the imperialia carried to the archbiſhop, and he preſented it upon a cuſhion to his majeſty. His majeſty took the crown, and placed it upon his head. This act the archbiſhop alſo accompanied with a prayer. His majeſty next called for the ſceptre and the ſtaff of command, which were likewiſe preſented to him by the archbiſhop, and then he ſeated himſelf upon the imperial throne, holding the ſceptre in his right, and the ſtaff of command in his left hand.

His majeſty next replaced theſe imperialia upon the cuſhions on which they had been preſented to him, and made a ſign to her imperial majeſty to draw near him. He then took off his crown, inclined it towards, and ſuſpended it over her majeſty's head, and again replaced it on his own.

The ſmall imperial crown was then brought to his majeſty, which he placed upon the head of the empreſs, while four of the ladies of the bed-chamber advanced and adjuſted it on her hair.

The imperial mantle, and chain of the order of St. Andrew, were next brought to his majeſty, with which he inveſted the empreſs, and the ſame ladies of the bedchamber advanced and fitted them on.

The archdeacon then recited all the titles of his imperial majeſty, and concluded by exclaiming *annorum ſeriem*—grant him a length of years;—Now all the bells began to ring, and, on a ſignal given from the cupola of the church, one hundred and one pieces of cannon, which lined the walls of the kremlin, were fired off. The different regiments drawn up in the adjoining ſquares and ſtreets alſo fired a firſt volley.

While the choir were ſinging the words *annorum ſeriem*, all the dignitaries of the church and the nobility of both ſexes

ſtood up, and bowed three times in congratulation to his majeſty.

When the ſinging in the choir, the ringing of the bells, and the roaring of the cannon had ceaſed, his imperial majeſty roſe up from the throne, returned the ſceptre and the ſtaff of command to the perſons whoſe office it was to carry them, and then knelt down. In this poſture he read from a book the prayer preſcribed for the occaſion; and when he concluded it, the archbiſhop and the whole of the aſſembly threw themſelves alſo upon their knees, and repeated a prayer, while his imperial majeſty alone ſtood up.

At the concluſion of this prayer the archbiſhop roſe, and delivered a diſcourſe adapted to the nature of the ceremony, and as he concluded, the whole choir began to ſing the pſalm, *Nomen tuum, Domine celebramus.* The bells were again rung, and the divine ſervice commenced. On the reading of the goſpel their majeſties took off and laid down their crowns; and the goſpel being afterwards preſented to them, they bowed down and kiſſed it with profound reverence.

As the ſervice advanced towards the conſecration of the ſacrament, and as, at the words "take and eat," the choir began to ſing the canons, the vice-governor of Moſcow, attended by two colonels, proceeded to ſtretch a carpeting of crimſon velvet, fringed with gold, down from the throne to the doors of the ſanctuary.

Immediately before the doors of the ſanctuary the velvet was covered over with gold tiſſue. Over this carpeting their majeſties walked down to receive the holy unction and the ſacrament.

As ſoon as the ſinging of the canons had ceaſed, and the biſhops, &c. had taken the communion at the altar, the doors of the ſanctuary were thrown open, and two biſhops, followed by two archdeacons, came forth and informed his majeſty that the hour of his conſecration was come. Upon this his majeſty proceeded ſtraight to the doors of the ſhrine. He was followed by her majeſty.

Before them walked the different maſters of ceremonies, the marſhals of the court, the grand marſhal, &c. in the ſame order as in the proceſſion.

As his majeſty approached the ſteps of the altar, he knelt down upon the golden tiſſue which had been ſpread there for the purpoſe. Her majeſty ſtopped before ſhe reached the doors of the ſanctuary.

His majeſty then returned his imperial inſignia, viz. the crown, the ſceptre, and the ſtaff of command, to the bearers, until he had gone through the ceremony of the conſecration, and taken the ſacrament,

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The archbiſhop now proceeded to perform the ceremony: he dipped a ſmall branch *(ramulus)* of gold into the holy oil, which was contained in a golden vaſe, and applied it to the forehead, to the eyes, the noſtrils, the mouth, the beard, and the fingers of each hand of his majeſty, while he pronounced theſe words, *Sigillum doni Spiritûs Sancti*. The eldeſt of the aſſiſting biſhops then wiped off the oil with white cotton. As ſoon as his majeſty had received the ſacred unction, all the bells were again rung, a ſimilar number of cannon, viz. one hundred and one, as at the coronation ceremony, were diſcharged, and the regiments around fired a ſecond volley.

Her imperial majeſty then placed herſelf upon the ſame golden tiſſue, and received the ſacred unction on her forehead only.

The archbiſhop next conducted his majeſty through the holy doors of the ſhrine into the interior of the ſanctuary, where he knelt down upon a gold cloth, and received the ſacrament, the body and blood of Chriſt, from the hands of the archbiſhop.—(The emperor alone of all the faithful is permitted to enter the ſanctuary, and communicate in this ſolemn manner.)

After the communion his majeſty returned to his imperial ſeat, the imperialia being carried before him.

The empreſs next advanced to the doors of the ſhrine, (no woman is allowed to enter it,) and received the ſacrament in the ordinary way. His majeſty then reſumed the imperialia, walked up with her majeſty to the throne, and remained ſeated on it till the divine ſervice was concluded.

Such were the more prominent formalities that marked the performance of this ſolemn ceremony. It may not be unintereſting now to add a few of the other circumſtances that preceded or followed it; together with a faint idea of the appearance which the interior of the cathedral wore during the ſolemnity.

Previous to the arrival of their imperial majeſties in the cathedral, the empreſs dowager and the two great ducheſſes Maria and Catharine took their places in the church. The Empreſs Dowager was ſeated in a ſeparate box under a canopy on the right of the throne. She wore a crown and the imperial mantle; had no ornament on her head but the crown; a medallion hung at her breaſt, ſuſpended by two rows of very large pearls. The body and train of her robe was a gold tiſſue; the petticoat a ſilver tiſſue, with flounces of gold flowers.

Next to the empreſs dowager, on the ſame ſide, but nearer the ſhrine, were placed in a ſeparate box the two great ducheſſes; they wore the order of St. Catharine and of Malta; their dreſs was rich and elegant; their hair was all braided with brilliants. The elder was dreſſed in a white ſilver tiſſue, the petticoats flounced with gold flowers. The younger alſo in a ſilver tiſſue,

with

with coloured ſilk flowers. The ſleeves of their robes were made of rows of lace.

The reigning empreſs wore a profuſion of diamonds: her dreſs was all white; a ſilver tiſſue petticoat and white flowers.

His imperial majeſty was dreſſed in the uniform of his regiment.

On the left of the throne, within the circle of the church, was a box prepared for the reception of the foreign miniſters. Here were placed the Auſtrian and Engliſh ambaſſadors, Count Sourou and Lord St. Helens; alſo the envoys from Ruſſia, Denmark, Sardinia, Wirtemburgh, &c. The Engliſh noblemen and gentlemen, now here on their travels, had alſo ſeats in the ſame box.

In the middle of the church was ſuſpended a rich canopy of crimſon velvet, laced and fringed with gold. In the middle of the ceiling of it were embroidered the arms of the Ruſſian empire, and around them the arms of Kioſ, of Waldimir, of Caſanza, of Aſtracan, of Liber, and of Tauris. On the ſides were embroidered cyeryhers of his majeſty's name.

Under this ſtood two ſtate chairs: one for the emperor, the other for his imperial conſort. Twelve ſteps deſcended from the throne, all covered with crimſon velvet. The reſt of the cathedral was covered with ſcarlet cloth. In the ſide aiſles were conſtructed four rows of benches, on which were ſeated the four firſt claſſes of the nobility. The benches on the right of the throne were alſo occupied by ladies; thoſe on the left by gentlemen and ladies.

The ladies were all ſplendidly arrayed in court dreſſes, and among thoſe on the right ſtood conſpicuouſly, at the end of the topmoſt bench, the beautiful Counteſs Panin, the lady of the miniſter for the foreign department. The gentlemen were moſtly dreſſed in rich uniforms, all ornamented with the ribbons and other brilliant inſignia of different orders. They ſhone like ſtars of various magnitude, the blaze of which was ſomewhat ſoftened by the milder luſtre from the galaxy of the intermingling and oppoſite beauties; and ſuch was the bright confuſion, that the eye which contemplated the ſcenes from the height of the cupola, might imagine itſelf to be looking down upon the inverted firmament of a cloudleſs night. Here and there, perhaps, its ſplendours were ſomewhat marred. The chillneſs of the morning obliged the ladies to wear ſhawls, and the brilliancy of their dreſs ſuffered a partial eclipſe from their intervention. Among the embroidered courtiers were alſo mixed ſome officers whoſe uniforms atteſted the length of their ſervice—They were not only diſcoloured, but worn out by time, and their colour, which was originally intended to have the vividneſs of a vernal, had now faded into the ſallowneſs of an autumnal green. It muſt

be confeſſed, however, that they were literally in the faſhion of the ſeaſon, for they imminently threatened a fall of the leaf.

But what was moſt ſtrikingly atractive and intereſting were the appearance and demeanour of the imperial family during the ſolemnity of the ceremony. The tall, majeſtic dignity of the empreſs dowager, on one ſide, was ſweetly attempered by the mild, unambitious charms of the young archduchefſes. Nothing could be more faſcinating than their tender beauty, fluſhed with modeſty, and heightened by devotion. Their right hands were bared of their gloves, and as they continually croſſed themſelves, waved in graceful motion acroſs their breaſts. They alternately bowed their heads to the ground, and raiſed them to Heaven. The awfulneſs of the ſcene threw them into a ſoft ſuffuſion of tears, and it was impoſſible to behold them without participating in their emotions—

" Their looks communing with the ſkies
" Their rapt ſouls ſitting in their eyes."

The perſons of the emperor and empreſs produced an effect no leſs impreſſive. Their youth and beauty, the mild dignity of their placid countenances, beſpoke the influence of every virtue over their breaſt; the anxious attentions to each other during the ceremony, chaſtened and over-awed by the terrors of religion, were exemplary in the extreme. His imperial majeſty, more particularly when he aſſiſted his imperial conſort through many of the formalities of the ceremony, betrayed the moſt lively ſymptoms of conjugal attachment. His every look was love; his every motion ſoft ſolicitude and tender trepidation —When to theſe appearances are ſuperadded the effect that muſt ariſe out of the mixed tumult produced by the ringing of numberleſs bells, the loud Hoſannahs of the choir, the deep roar of cannon, the abrupt vollies of muſquetry, all concurring to ſwell the pomp of dreadful ſacrifice, the magic of the ſcene may perhaps be conceived, but who can adequately deſcribe it? it preſented every thing that could dazzle and delight the eye, that could aſtound or titilate the ear, that could ſoften or agitate the heart: in a word, it may be ſaid, that the efforts made to give it ſplendour and awfulneſs were among, if not the moſt ſucceſsful that ever were attempted by the impotence of human greatneſs, when it exerts itſelf to raiſe towards the throne of Heaven a magnificent teſtimony and acknowledgement of its nothingneſs.

On BENEVOLENCE.

HUMAN nature is ſo conſtituted, that without ſociety exiſtence would ſoon become inſupportable. We are formed with

with ſuch diſpoſitions, as to be incapable of happineſs without the mutual intercourſe of friendſhip; though ſurrounded with every delight which fancy could wiſh, or the moſt fertile imagination paint, yet, ſecluded from ſociety, we muſt ſtill feel forlorn and unhappy; the moſt exquiſite enjoyments would become taſteleſs and inſipid, and life itſelf prove an intolerable burden. Hence it evidently appears, that no individual was created ſolely for himſelf, but intended to augment the general felicity of the ſpecies; the ſocial and friendly affections were implanted in our nature in order to ſtimulate us to thoſe mutual acts of kindneſs and good-will, without which the world would prove a deſert, and human beings ſink almoſt to a level with the brute creation.

If then it appears that the reciprocal aids of friendſhip are thus neceſſary to the comfort of exiſtence, it muſt ſurely be our higheſt intereſt to cultivate thoſe diſpoſitions which may tend to render ſociety permanently agreeable; amongſt the foremoſt of which, may be reckoned the exerciſe of pure and extenſive benevolence; this is a virtue of ſo comprehenſive a nature, as to include in it almoſt every thing which is requiſite for human felicity. Were all mankind to act upon this principle, the world would be in a manner metamorphoſed; happineſs and joy would ſpring up in every region, and a very large proportion of the miſeries of life would be aboliſhed.

That this virtue has the moſt direct tendency beyond any other, to promote the welfare of ſociety, will not, I think, admit of a doubt. The man who is poſſeſſed of a truly benevolent ſpirit, will conſider the happineſs of his fellow-creatures as intimately connected with his own; whatever may, in any degree, tend to advance their intereſts, or meliorate their ſufferings, he will not on any account neglect or diſregard. Looking upon himſelf as united by the cloſeſt ties to the whole univerſe of intelligent beings, his affection will not be partially confined to a few individuals, with whom he is perſonally acquainted. It will be extended to the whole creation. Though the actual exertions of his philanthrophy muſt neceſſarily be confined in a very narrow circle, his benevolent affections will be far from being thus limited; conſcious how much he is indebted to others for a very large ſhare of the comforts of his life, he will be anxious by every means in his power to repay the obligation. In imparting happineſs to others he will be continually receiving freſh acceſſions to his own; every opportunity of rendering eſſential benefit to ſociety, or even to the meaneſt individual, will afford him the moſt rational and ſublime ſatisfaction.

True benevolence will teach us to conſider every act of cruelty to the animal tribe as an outrage againſt the gracious parent of the univerſe, by whom they, as well as ourſelves, were created, and by whom they were intended to participate in the general felicity.

The ENGROSSER's CONFESSION *and* APOLOGY.

MEN have been found, before the preſent day, who would readily engage in ſpeculations that might ſtarve the multitude, for the chance of their own individual profit; but that the offence was conſidered of great enormity towards the public, and that the offenders then dreaded, above all things, an appeal to the tribunal of the laws, is clearly aſcertained by the following advertiſement, preſerved in the Annual Regiſter of the year 1759, page 109:

" Whereas I Williams Margetts the younger, was, at the laſt aſſizes for the county of Cambridge, convicted upon an indictment for an attempt to raiſe the price of corn in Ely market, upon the 24th day of September, 1757, by offering the ſum of ſix ſhillings a buſhel for wheat, for which no more than five ſhillings and nine-pence was demanded: and whereas, on the earneſt ſolicitation of myſelf and friends, the proſecutor has been prevailed upon to forbear any further proſecution againſt me, on my ſubmitting to make the following ſatisfaction, viz. upon my paying the ſum of 50l. to the poor inhabitants of the town of Ely, to be diſtributed by the miniſters and churchwardens of the ſeveral pariſhes in the ſaid town of Ely; and the further ſum of 50l. to the poor inhabitants of the town of Cambridge, to be diſtributed by the miniſters and churchwardens of the ſeveral pariſhes in the ſaid town; and the full coſts of the proſecution; and upon my reading this acknowledgment of my offence publickly, and with a loud voice, in the preſence of a magiſtrate, conſtable, or other peace-officer of the ſaid town of Ely, at the market-place there, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock, on a public market-day; and likewiſe ſubſcribing and publiſhing the ſame in three of the evening papers printed at London, and in the Cambridge Journal, on four different days; and I have accordingly paid the ſaid two ſums of 50l. and coſts, and do hereby confeſs myſelf to have been guilty of the ſaid offence, and teſtify my ſincere and hearty ſorrow in having committed a crime which, in its conſequences, tended ſo much to increaſe the diſtreſs of the poor in the late calamitous ſcarcity: and I hereby moſt humbly acknowledge the lenity of the proſecutor, and beg pardon of the public in general; and the town of Ely in particular.

" This paper was read by me at the public market-place at Ely, in the preſence of Thomas Aungier, gentleman, chief conſtable, on the 2d day of June, 1759, being a public market-day, and is now, as a further proof of the juſt ſenſe I have of the heinouſneſs of my crime, ſubſcribed and publiſhed by me,

" WM. MARGETTS.

" Witneſs JAMES DAY,
" Under Sheriff of Cambridgeſhire."

Anſwer, by W. Francis, of Gwennap, to G. England's Charade, inſerted Sept. 21.

A Good CONSCIENCE is a precious gem,
Superior to a diadem.

†*† We have received the like anſwer from J. Squance, H. Humphreys, P. Gove, William Strong, and E. Moon, of Exeter; A. L. and R. Baker, of Poole; Serjeant Towning, of the Fivehead Volunteers; J. Whittle, Upway; W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; and R. Maſſett, of Saltaſh.

Anſwer, by G. England, of Uplyme, to E. T.'s Rebus, inſerted September 21.

"UNVEX'D by worldly cares" the HERMIT lives
Till AGE and death, his lateſt foes, arrive;
Then void of fear he bids this world adieu,
And ſoars on rapturous wing t'enjoy a bliſsful new.

†*† We have received the like anſwer from Philandricus; W. Strong, Egbert Moon, Thomas Whicker, S. B. and H. Humphreys, of Exeter; A. L. of Poole; W. Brock, of Bath; Serjeant Towning, of the Fivehead Volunteers; W. Francis, of Gwennap; Valencourt, of Kenn; and Scholaſticus, of South Molton.

An ANAGRAM, *by T. Jarvis, of Malborough.*

A Title of Jupiter tranſpoſe,
A party, gents. you will diſcloſe.

A CHARADE, *by E. Penney, of Aſhburton.*

INGENIOUS youths, if you've my firſt,
May it be cur'd and ſpeedily;
My next, when full, I'll not withhold,
From uſeful acts of charity.
The whole, you'll ſay, ſhould baniſh'd be
Unto the bay called Botany.

A REBUS, *by S. Murch, of Exeter.*

ONE of the nereids firſt explain;
Fortuna's title next I mean;
The god of corn now recollect;
Bacchus's name I now ſelect;
A mountain high you'll next expound;
My next is in moſt countries found:
If you the initials rightly find,
A pauſe or ſtop 'twill bring to mind.

A CHARADE, *by Philandricus.*

CHARADIAN Gents! my firſt abounds;
In groves, alſo in pleaſure grounds;
Examine Neptune's wide domain;
One of his tribes you muſt obtain;
Eraſe one letter, and 'tis clear,
My ſecond quickly will appear.
When Mars his horrid banner rears,
My whole the coward ſtrikes with fear.

POETRY.

Extract from a Poem, by the Rev. W. L. Bowles, entitled, "The Sorrows of Switzerland."

SHORES of Lucerne! where many a winding bay
Shone beauteous to the morn's returning ray;
Where ſkyey tints upon the blue lake ſhone,
And touch'd the rocks with colours not their own;
Who now, with eyes that ſwim in tenderneſs,
The ſcenes, to every virtue dear, ſhall bleſs!
What pleaſures now ſhall the rich landſcape yield—
The ſparkling cataract—the pendent field—
'Mid hoar declivities the ſunny tow'r,
Peering o'er beeches that its root embower;
And cottage tops, with light ſmoke trailing low
O'er the grey vapours looming far below?
Who ſhall aſcend proud Pilate's* height, and mark
The motley clouds ſail o'er the champagne dark,
Now breaking in fantaſtic forms, and now
Dappling the diſtant promontory's brow;
Then, when the ſun that lights the ſcene, rides high,
And far away the ſcatter'd volumes fly,
Look up to the great God that rules the world,
By whom proud empires from their ſeats are hurl'd,
And feel a glow of holy gratitude,
That here, 'mid hollow glens, and mountains rude,
Far from ambition's march, and diſcord's yell,
Content, and love, and happineſs ſhall dwell!

Who now along thoſe banks ſhall liſt'ning ſtray,
When evening lights each inlet weſt away,
And hear the ſolitary boatman's oar,
Dip duly, as he nears the ſhaded ſhore;
Or catch the whiſpers of the water-fall,
That thro' the ivy'd cleſts ſwell muſical.
Theſe ſcenes, theſe ſounds, could many a joy impart
With ſadneſs mix'd: The wandering youth, whoſe heart
Was ſick with many ſorrows, reſting here
At ſuch an hour, forgot his ſtarting tear;
He felt a penſive calm, ſweeter than ſleep,
Steal gently o'er his aching breaſt; the deep
And clear repoſe of the unruffled lake,
His ſpirit ſeem'd unconſcious to partake;
And ſtill the water, as it whiſper'd near,
Or high woods as they ruſtled, ſooth'd his ear,
Like the remembrance of a melody,
Heard in his happy infant days gone by.
Now in a diſtant country, when with tears
The tale of ruffian violence he hears—
Hears that the ſpot, which ſmil'd with lovely gleam,
Like ſome ſweet image of a tender dream,
Upon his morning path, is drench'd with gore—
Its harmleſs tenants weltering on the ſhore.
He will exclaim, while from his breaſt he draws
A deep, deep ſigh, "Avenge, O God! their cauſe."

Who

* Mount Pilate, on the lake.

Who would not figh for Switzerland? What heart,
That ever bore in human woes a part;
That ever felt affection's genuine flame;
That ever leap'd at injur'd freedom's name;
Would not for her dark foes feel honeft hate,
And fwell with indignation at her fate?

If thus her lot of forrow have impreſs'd
Grief and reſentment on a ſtranger's breaſt,
How muſt he hear the murderous tale of death,
He, who in theſe ſtill vales firſt drew his breath.
'Tis his, perhaps, in diſtant climes to roam,
Far from the ſhelter of his early home;
Yet ſtill, as fancy paints the ſpot, he ſees
His father's cottage, and the mountain trees;
Again by the wild ſtreams he ſeems to rove;
He hears the voice of her who won his love,
His heart's firſt love; for her he prunes the vine,
Whoſe cluſt'ring leaves the ruſtic porch entwine;
The mountains vaſt together they aſcend,
They ſee Alps pil'd on Alps, far on extend;
They mark the caſual ſunſhine light the maſs,
Or vernal ſhow'rs along the valley paſs;
Whilſt tinging the dark rocks, more lovely glow
The breeded colours of Heav'n's humid bow!
But now the maid he lov'd—with whom all day
He lov'd in ſummer o'er the hills to ſtray;
The faithful maid he lov'd—O! cold deſpair
Freeze his warm life-blood; and that thrilling air§
Which erſt he ſung, when, all alive to joy,
He caroll'd on the Alps, a peaſant boy:
Let him not hear it now—left his eyes ſtart,
And madneſs harrow up his broken heart!

How touching was the ſimple ſtrain! the tear
Of mem'ry ſtarted, when't met the ear;
And he whoſe front was rough with many a ſcar,
Whoſe bold heart bounded at the trump of war,
Stood all diſſolv'd in ſadneſs at its tone,
Rememb'ring him of pleaſant ſeaſons gone.

Perhaps full many a heavy hour had paſs'd,
Since in its native nooks he heard it laſt;
And when again its well-known muſick thrill'd,
A thouſand thronging recollections fill'd
His ſoul that, ſick with longing, homeward rov'd;
Remote from ſcenes which moſt on earth he lov'd,
Caſt on a world tempeſtuous, bleak, and wide,
More ardent for his once-lov'd hills he ſigh'd,
And ſigh'd again to think how it might fare
With ſiſters, brothers, friends, and parents there.†
But be its muſic and its name forgot,
FOR DESERT IS HIS HOME, AND THOSE HE LOV'D ARE NOT.

§ The famous *Ranz de Vaches*.
† "And wakes to think how it might fare with you."—*Sheridan*.

A REFLECTION.

LET not the child of poverty deſpair,
But bleſs the power that rules the changing year,
Aſſur'd tho' horrors round his cottage reign,
That ſpring will come, and nature ſmile again.